



Volume 21
Patriot District

The Patriot Press

<http://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot/press>

January 2018
National Capital Area Council



Issue 01
Boy Scouts of America



2017 NCAC ADAMS AWARD

January 5, 2018

The Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award.

For Eagle Scout Service Projects of “valuable service of an exceptional nature by a Scout.” For this year, the Eagle Scout must have had his Eagle board of review during 2017 (1 Jan – 31 Dec).

Applications due to Council by 19 Jan 2018. Do not send to the National Eagle Scout Association. For NCAC project nominations, send to: AdamsAward@NCACBSA.org or Aaron.chusid@scouting.org

Remember, the Scout must sign the application, consenting to his project being nominated. A video or link to a video of the Eagle Scout describing his project is recommended but not required.

Information/ application: https://www.scouting.org/Home/Awards_Central/GlenMelinda.aspx

For additional questions, contact the Adams Award Chair, Mike Cooper, at michael.cooper@usmcu.edu or 540-841-2574.



From the District Chairman

Happy New Year!

Wow, what happened to 2017? It is hard to believe another year has come and gone and it is already 2018. Winter is in full force, less the snow, thank goodness!

Let’s work together to get the new year off to a great start. It’s Friends of Scouting Season and soon you will be hosting FOS presentations. If each unit could have an FOS coordinator it would really make things so much easier for the District Vice Chair for Finance, Mark Greer. Nothing makes an FOS presentation go smoother and be more prosperous than to have a unit member doing some ground work ahead of the presentation. Unit Leaders please get a volunteer to be that POC so when Mark calls (and he will be calling soon) to set up a presentation, everything will go so much smoother!

There are other exciting things coming early this year. Winter camping, Courts of Honor and the Pinewood Derby. It should be a great winter full of Scouting activities!

Please be sure and share the Patriot Press with all your families. Getting the word out makes for a better informed District.

Once again, my best for a Happy and Wonderful New Scouting Year!

Steve Smith, Patriot District Chairman



From the District Commissioner

2017 is in the history books now and we had a great year! We had just about all of our Troops participate in summer camping either at Goshen or nearby camps in other councils, and we had a terrific cub day camp at Gesher School with about 160 Cub Scouts, including some from other districts participating. Our District had 74 of our Scouts attain the rank of Eagle during the year and with a big push in Cub Scout enrollment in the fall, we had a 3% growth in membership – that is the best in the Council. The growth credit goes to a lot of aggressive Pack recruiting, but to John Stewart, District Membership Chair, in particular. We've received most of the 2017 Journey to Excellence forms now and our District is mostly GOLD. All of this happens because we have many dedicated adults to give of their time to ensure our Scouts can get the most from the Scouting Program. A big thank you to all of our District volunteers because you make it all happen.

February will be a busy month for us. I mentioned the University of Scouting last month and I'll push it again as an opportunity to spend a day with fellow Scouters learning more about aspects of Scouting of your choosing. Registration is now open on the council website. You can find the course catalog there too. The link is <https://www.ncacbsa.org/training/university-of-scouting/>. If you want to make sure you get all of the classes you want, you should sign up early as the class sizes are limited. February is also Pine Wood Derby time. If you didn't see Pete Griffiths' article last month please go back and review. He laid out some of the important rules. Past issues of the Press can be found at <https://www.ncacbsa.org/patriot/press/>.

Summertime will be on us before we know it and Boy Scout High Adventure is one outing that requires a bit of long range planning. We have several Troops doing Philmont, Northern Tier, and Sea Base this summer and we don't want any Scout to miss an opportunity to participate. We currently have two treks to Northern Tier, both in late July, which have availability in them. One was advertised in the Press last month and another this month. Please let your Scouts know that even though your Troop might not be doing High Adventure this year, they can still attend with another unit. As we're made aware of these openings, we'll let you know.

We had three new Commissioners join our ranks at the end of last year. John Nelson, formerly Scoutmaster of Troop 1525; Patrick Turner, you probably see him in the Scout Shop; and Kim Sykes, with the Fairfax County Juvenile Court; all are welcome additions to our Commissioner Corps. They bring a lot of skill and passion to help our unit programs. Also last month, Randy Witter, Jack Oliva, and Kristin Chioma were awarded the NCAC Outstanding Commissioner Council Strip Patch (CSP) for their outstanding commissioner service.

Until next month,

Dave Astle, District Commissioner



Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.

~ Martin Luther King (b. January 15, 1929)



Patriot District Events

Web Calendar: www.ncacbsa.org/patriot

January 2018

- 6 OA Lodge Banquet
- 9 Commissioner Meeting
- 11 Roundtable
- 11 OA Chapter Meeting
- 13-15 Winter NYLT (First Weekend)
- 14 ARC First Aid/CPR/AED (Session 1)
- 15 ARC First Aid/CPR/AED (Session 2)
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 22 Cubmaster Position-Specific Training
- 22 Central VA Area 2019 World Scout Jamboree Information Event (St. Stephen's UMC)
- 23 PD Committee Meeting
- 28 Patriot Press Deadline – February

February 2018

- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 11 Scout Sunday
- 13 Commissioner Meeting
- 15 Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training
- 17-19 Winter NYLT (Second Weekend)
- 19 Presidents' Day
- 24 University of Scouting
- 25 Patriot Press Deadline – March
- 27 PD Committee Meeting

March 2018

- 8 Roundtable
- 8 OA Chapter Meeting
- 10 District Pinewood Derby
- 10 Commissioner College
- 10 BCOLS (classroom)
- 13 Commissioner Meeting
- 22 Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training
- 27 PD Committee Meeting
- 30 Passover begins (sundown)

BCOLS	Back Country Outdoor Leader Skills	OA	Order of the Arrow
CPST	Cubmaster Position-Specific Training	SPST	Scoutmaster Position-Specific Training
IOLS	Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills	VAPST	Venture Advisor Position-Specific Training
JSN	Join Scouting Night	VCPST	Varsity Coach Position-Specific Training
NLE	New Leader Essentials	VOA	Venturing Officers Association
NYLT	National Youth Leadership Training		

Cub Scout Roundtable!



All Cub Scout Leaders, Come Out and Join us for Fun & Fellowship
and to Pick-Up some New Ideas for your Pack and Den Programs!

The Purpose of the Roundtable:

To provide the skill to do – skills, techniques, information, program ideas – and
the know-how that makes for successful unit operation.

To provide unit leadership with the will to do – the morale, enthusiasm,
inspiration, and vision that periodically renew the desire to serve youth.

When: January 11th, 2018

Where: Saint Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road

Midway: 7:30 – 8 PM

Roundtable: 8 – 9 PM

Mike Stonkey, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner
mstonkey@verizon.net



Boy Scout Roundtable

Not just for Scoutmasters

Patriot District Boy Scout Roundtable

Thursday, January 11th, 2018

Saint Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke

Midway: 7:30 - Pre-Opening: 7:40 – Roundtable: 8:00 to 9:00

Topics: Who Pays for Scouting, OA Elections (Just the Facts), Community Service (Why We Give Back)

Randy Witter, Boy Scout Roundtable Commissioner
703-323-5220, Randy.Witter@gmail.com

Asst. Boy Scout RT Commissioners: Steve Polchek, Joe Margraf



FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

Important Message for all Committee Chairs and Unit Leaders

It's time to get your presentation date and time slot for the 2018 Friends of Scouting (FOS) Campaign. Please contact the District Vice-Chair for Finance, Mark Greer, to schedule your annual Family FOS presentation. Ideal times are Courts of Honor and General Pack Meetings. ***We need a date, time, and POC for every unit in the District.***

The annual FOS campaign has several components: Family, Scouter, and Community, and a successful campaign each year is absolutely critical to the financial health of the National Capital Area Council (NCAC). It helps to pay for much-needed upgrades to Goshen Scout reservation (over \$300,000 in recent years), was a big part of paying for the \$6 million needed to modernize the Lake Merriweather Dam at Goshen, pays for training costs not covered by units/participants, and helps pay the salaries of our dedicated, professional Scouters and staff, among a long list of NCAC program and operating expenses.

If you are new to Scouting, (or you simply haven't understood why we have this additional fundraising activity each year) you may wonder why it's really necessary. Let me assure you that each Scout's dues only pay a small part of the nearly \$200 annual program cost per Scout. When we look at the benefits of Scouting (the value proposition), it is tremendous. A recent Harris Study found that 83 percent of adults who were Scouts say that the values they learned in Scouting continue to be very important to them today. And when we see the return on investment among Scouting alumni, it's even more impressive: 89% of senior class presidents, 71% of football team captains, 70% of Annapolis Graduates, 72% of Rhodes Scholars, and 26 of the first 29 Astronauts were all Scouts.

So please take this opportunity to sit down at a computer right now and send an email to Mark Greer at mfgreer@verizon.net to schedule your presentation.



When you're good to others, you're best to yourself.

~ Benjamin Franklin (b. January 17, 1706)



Patriot District Day Camp

The 2018 instance of the Patriot District day camp is scheduled for the week of July 9 – 13, 2018. It will again be held at Geshar Jewish Day School and again offer many of the Scouts' favorite activities. We are currently completing the program for the camp, but we already know that we will again need lots of help from both adult and Boy Scout volunteers. Please keep us in mind when making your summer plans.

Additionally, Niko Brown, the camp director, is currently doing Pack visits to tell Scouts about camp. If you are interested in having Niko come out and visit your Pack, please sign up with at least two date options at the following sign up genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4aa8a92aaaf58-2018>

We will be distributing more information about volunteer positions and paperwork instructions in the coming months, but please feel free to reach out to Niko Brown or Justin Day with any questions.



Patriot District Pinewood Derby

I hope everyone is having a good start to the new Cub Scout year!

**** There are no changes from last year ****

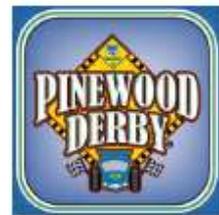
An almost-short reminder: Cubs must compete the cars that won their respective competitions at the Pack level. The idea is that all Cubs are coming to race cars that have already won in Pack competitions. The District Derby is not supposed to be the place where a car races for the first time! I am pointing this out because we have had several occasions in the last few years where cars have been registered and either found to not meet the rule specifications at registration and been disqualified, or NOT found at registration and we discover mid-racing that there's a car that hasn't met the requirements to compete. In the latter case, a parent was upset because an "illegal" (their word) car placed and her son's "legal" car didn't. Again, the goal is to ensure that ALL of the Cubs start the District Derby with the same cars, meeting the same requirements, to ensure that the competition is level and fair. That's my objective.

All participants MUST be pre-registered prior to race day. Each Pack will submit pre-registration for their entire Pack via email to the Patriot District Pinewood Derby Race Director. Good luck at your individual Pack Pinewood Derbies!

Pete Griffiths, PWD Chair
PinewoodDerby.Patriot@gmail.com



2018



Patriot District Pinewood Derby -- Registration Form

Pack Number:	
Pack Point of Contact:	
Email:	
Cell Phone:	

Speed Category Entries: *Please write legibly!!*

Rank/Den	Cub Scout F irst Name	Cub Scout L ast Name
Tiger		
Wolf		
Bear		
Webelos		
Arrow of Light		

Show Category Entries: *Please write legibly!!*

Rank/Den	Cub Scout F irst Name	Cub Scout L ast Name
Tiger		
Wolf		
Bear		
Webelos		
Arrow of Light		

Notes:

Registration Fees are \$10.00 per Cub Scout. Pre-payment is required.

Please send payments to:

Patriot District Pinewood Derby
 c/o Pete Griffiths
 5931 Oakland Park Drive
 Burke, VA 22015

Race Director Contact Information:

Cell: (571) 424-0022
 PinewoodDerby.Patriot@gmail.com
 ** Please use text messaging on race day **

All registration fees for all competitors from a given Pack should be PAID by a SINGLE CHECK PAYABLE TO "BSA-NCAC". Please note the Pack number in the memo line.

Entries must be submitted by email to PinewoodDerby.Patriot@gmail.com **no later than Fri, 23 Feb 2018.**

2019 World Scout Jamboree



**NCAC International Committee Information Event
for the NCAC Virginia Central Area**

- When:** 7:00 pm-9:00 pm, Monday, 22 January 2018
- Where:** St. Stephen's United Methodist Church
9203 Braddock Road, Burke, VA
- What:** Come see video and slide presentations about the 2019 World Scout Jamboree.
Members of the NCAC International Committee will be present to answer your questions about how to register as a participant or a member of the International Service Team, IST.
- Who:** Scouts who will be between 14 and 17 by 22 July 2019. Parents and Scouters are welcome to attend. Virginia Central Area of our council including Chain Bridge District, Colonial District, George Mason District, Old Dominion District, and Patriot District.
- Contact:** Philip Sternberg at phil.sternberg@gmail.com, 703-960-0205 (cell)

The Patriot Press, Patriot District
National Capital Area Council

The Patriot Press is the monthly newsletter of the Patriot District, NCAC, Boy Scouts of America. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the official policies of the National Capital Area Council or the Boy Scouts of America. This newsletter is provided eleven times each year (not in July) and posted at <http://www.ncacbsa.org/PatriotPress>

Deadline for copy inclusion in *The Patriot Press* is the two Sundays prior to Roundtable. Using MS Word, articles may be emailed to the editor at joe.osborne@cox.net.

Key District Contacts

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Mark Greer	Vice Chair, Finance	mgreerv@verizon.net
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Justin Day	Training Chair	kappasighacksaw@yahoo.com
Kristin Chioma	Advancement Chair	chioma@msn.com
Robert Cohn	OA Advisor	patriotchapter@wipit470.org



Youth Mental Health First Aid Training for Adult Volunteer Scout Leaders

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW – BEFORE, NOT AFTER, A CRISIS

As we are all painfully aware, mental health issues including depression, feelings of helplessness and loneliness, being bullied and thoughts of suicide are no stranger to the youth we support. As adult volunteer Scout leaders it is incumbent upon us to know how to recognize and respond to the signs of mental illness and duress. This knowledge can literally be the difference between life and death. Several years ago Fairfax County schools had a string of devastating teen suicides...and some of the boys we lost were from our local Troops. In response, we are now partnering with the Fairfax County Health Department to offer a training course in Youth Mental Health First Aid to help prevent teen suicide. This is the same training that is mandatory for every Fairfax County School System teacher, administrator and staff member to complete. The same instructors from the Fairfax County Government's Health & Wellness Department that teach them have agreed to provide that training to us and to also customize it to the specific needs of Scouting.

We're excited to report that we are trying to schedule the third class for our District. Any interested Scouters please contact Mark Greer (mfgreer@verizon.net) to express their interest. We are trying to ensure we have enough potential attendees to fill a class. The exact date will depend on the availability of our instructors.

Every unit should have a goal of having at least one trained leader. The cost for the training is \$30 per person and covers all course materials and instruction. Space is limited and we are accepting no more than 30 participants for this class. Upon completion of the course, all participants will receive a Youth Mental Health First Aid certificate of completion and a NCAC sanctioned patch demonstrating achievement.



Troop 50 Northern Tier Expedition, July 23-31, 2018

Boy Scout Troop 50 is taking a crew to one of the most beautiful spots on earth- Northern Tier Canoe Base in Ely, MN and *we have one last spot available*. Spend 8 nights at Northern Tier, 6 of them on the water in some of the most remote and pristine lakes imaginable. We'll fly DC to Minneapolis on the 21st or 22nd of July, spend a day or so exploring beautiful Minnesota, and check into NT on the morning of the 23rd. There, we'll meet our interpreter, get loaded up with all our gear for the week, plan our trek, and then hit the water on the 24th. Our timing is perfect: during the last week of July most of the mosquitoes and black flies should be dormant, and the weather is usually pretty dry. For the next six days and nights we'll paddle, explore, challenge ourselves, and have an amazing adventure. We'll get back to base on the 30th, enjoy the luxuries of civilization such as running water, and then fly back home on the 31st.

Cost? Much depends on airfare, but each crew member should plan to spend about \$1,500 including equipment. Don't miss the adventure of a lifetime! *Contact Troop 50 Committee Chair Regina FitzSimmons at regina_fitzsimmons@yahoo.com or 703-593-3715, for more information, and be sure to check out the website: <http://www.ntier.org>*



2018 NYLT

National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) equips young people with leadership skills to help them succeed in their Scouting program and in life. NYLT brings together Scouts from all over the council to learn and practice leadership techniques in a risk free, Scout-friendly environment. The Scouts learn and practice leadership skills and styles together.



6 DAYS OF FUN & ADVENTURE
TEAMWORK • GAMES • FOOD
CHALLENGES • CAMPING • LEARNING

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
NYLT is for Scouts who are likely to take on leadership positions in their Troop, Crew, Ship or home unit.

REQUIREMENTS

- 14 years or older (13 with permission)
- First Class Rank
- Scoutmaster approval
- Completed ILST*
- BSA Med Form: Parts A,B & C

NYLT is an *intense course* for *mature Scouts* who want to become *better leaders*. Scouts must be *respectful* of each other and their actions must be consistent with the *Scout Oath and Law*.

* Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST), Crews (ILSC), or Ships (ILSS)

COURSE DATES

- 13-15 January & 17-19 February
Camp Snyder, VA
(Must complete both weekends)
- 17-22 June 2018
Cheltenham, MD
- 24-29 June 2018
Cheltenham, MD
- 29 July-3 August 2018
Camp Snyder, VA
- 5-10 August 2018
Camp Snyder, VA

REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION:
www.myNYLT.org





Update-New Date- Sunday, February 4, 2018

NCAC Jewish Committee on Scouting

Tu B'Shevat Celebration - Jewish Arbor Day

Plant Seedlings, Enjoy Tree Food, Conservation-Forestry

When: Sunday, February 4, 2018, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Who: Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Venturing Scouts, Girl Scouts

All faiths welcome. Register early, space is limited.

Where: George Mason University Jewish (Chabad) House, 4601 Roberts Road, Fairfax, VA 22032

What: Celebrate the annual Jewish Holiday of Tu B'Shevat. Scouts will get Tree Seedlings in 2" pots to decorate and take home for planting when the weather is warmer. Learn about Conservation and Forestry. And enjoy a Tu B'Shevat Seder ... with food from trees like nuts and fruits.

Register: Email this registration form by January 28, 2018 to registration@ncacjos.org

Cost: The event will cost \$18.00/per participant-pay at the door.

Make checks payable to "Jewish Committee," and put "Tu B'Shevat" on the memo line. Scouts with a financial need should let us know.

Questions: Philip Sternberg registration@ncacjos.org, or 703-960-0205 (cell).

Directions: Take I-495 (beltway) to exit 54A, Braddock Road, west, about 5 miles. Turn right onto Roberts Road. The GMU Chabad House is the first building on the right.

Registration Information:

- Registration options: Cub Scout Program, Boy Scout Program, Venturing Program, JCoS Committee Member, Other-Girl Scouts, Request Financial Assistance.

Contact Information:

Form fields for contact information: Scout's Name, Age, Rank, Grade, Unit Type, Unit Number, Location, District, Parent's Name, Unit Leader's Name, Mailing Address, City, State, Zip, E-Mail Address, Cell Phone, Home Phone.

Do not bring food or drinks into the event. If you have specific dietary requirements, please let us know:

Email this form by 28 January 2018 to registration@ncacjos.org

INTRODUCING SCOUTBOOK

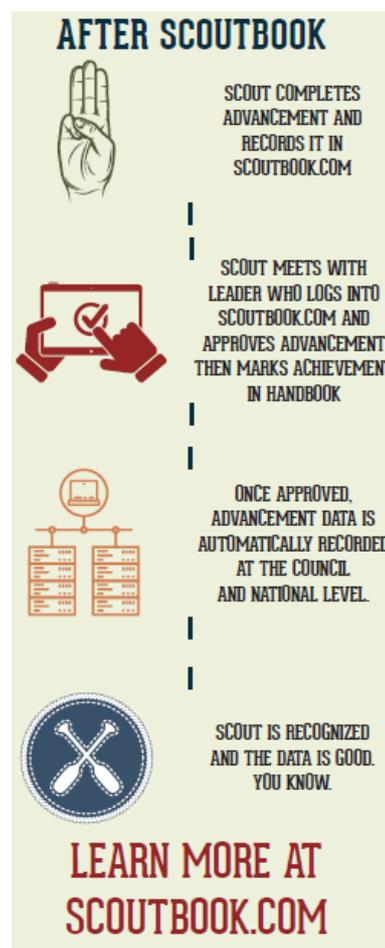
The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) is excited to roll out a new solution in Q2 of 2018 that will leverage core components of the Scoutbook platform. **The current Internet Advancement platform will be retired and replaced by a new online tool called Scoutbook Lite.**

This new application is being developed now from the ground up so that unit leaders can quickly key in advancement and other key data. It will sport a slick new user interface optimized for desktop, tablet, and mobile devices.

The BSA has found that less than 10% of units use the CSV data file import feature in Internet Advancement. In the interest of focusing on tools that serve more Scouters, the CSV data file import will not be supported once the current Internet Advancement platform is discontinued.

Other than the CSV import feature, Scoutbook Lite will offer optimized functions for everything found in the current Internet Advancement platform. The Scoutbook database will become the official record of advancement for the Boy Scouts of America. And we will continue to work on and improve Scoutbook as our full feature application.

Are you a programmer? For Scouters who are experienced in the development of apps or web platforms, the BSA is excited to announce the upcoming roll out of API's. A selection of specific, read-only API's will be made available to Scouting volunteers in the first half of 2018. There are no current plans to roll out API's to third parties.



Family Scouting Early Adopter Starts Jan. 15



Family Scouting Early Adopter Program Launches in January 2018!

A full plan and guide for the Family Scouting expansion is set to roll-out for the 2018 program year, but for those who just can't wait to get started BSA has released an Early Adopter Program starting January 15, 2018.

As you already know, the decision of whether to start a Family Pack is up to the Chartered Organization (COR); regardless of the outcome of that decision, NCAC stands ready to support Scouting in your neighborhood with the same commitment to top-notch programs as we always have. However, if your Pack has decided to make the move and open your program to girls, the question now becomes do you want to be an Early Adopter in January or wait for the official launch this summer? (The exact date is still TBD but expected to be early June so girls can attend summer camp.)

To better help you decide, refer to the NCAC web site:

<https://www.ncacbsa.org/blog/2017/12/21/family-scouting-early-adopter-starts-jan-15/>

Whether you are launching in January or August, the Early Adopter Program gives you a good idea what you'll need to do to "Be Prepared!" for Family Scouting. Similar to the introduction of Lions a few years back, this "soft rollout" framework is sensitive to the needs of all families while providing a comfortable starting point for those Packs who are ready to embrace the new program. And like the Lions rollout, the Family Scouting Program will continue to develop and evolve as feedback is received and new challenges are identified.

Reach out to NCAC directly at family@ncacbsa.org or call 301-530-9360.